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[No. 93]

SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING ON S. 3476, TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COMDR. DONALD B. MACMILLAN, UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE (RETIRED), TO THE GRADE OF REAR ADMIRAL ON THE NAVAL RESERVE RETIRED LIST

House of Representatives,
Committee on Armed Services,
Subcommittee No. 2,
Washington, D. C., Friday, June 18, 1954.

The subcommittee met at 10 a. m., the Hon. Leslie C. Arends, chairman of the subcommittee, presiding.

Mr. Arends. The committee will come to order. We will first take up Senate 3476, an act to provide for the advancement of Comdr. Donald B. MacMillan, United States Naval Reserve, retired, to the grade of rear admiral on the Naval Reserve retired list.

[S. 3476, 83d Cong., 2d sess.]

AN ACT To provide for the advancement of Commander Donald B. MacMillan, United States Naval Reserve (retired), to the grade of rear admiral on the Naval Reserve retired list

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Commander Donald B. MacMillan, United States Naval Reserve, retired, shall be advanced on the Naval Reserve retired list to the grade of rear admiral effective as of the date of enactment of this Act, in recognition of his lifelong and invaluable services on behalf of the United States and the United States Navy through outstanding contributions to the sciences of hydrography, meteorology, and geography in the polar areas.

Sec. 2. Nothing contained in this Act shall be deemed to increase the retired or retirement pay received by the said Commander Donald B. MacMillan and no other benefits shall accrue to him by virtue of the enactment thereof.

Passed the Senate June 15 (legislative day, June 11), 1954.

Attest: J. Mark Trice, *Secretary.*

Before we get into the bill, I would like to read this statement.

Before we resume the hearings on S. 1063, I would like to ask the subcommittee to first consider the bill S. 3476, which would provide for the advancement of Donald B. MacMillan, United States Naval Reserve, retired, to the grade of rear admiral on the Naval Reserve retired list without any increase in pay.

We all know Commander MacMillan, or know of him. He is now an octogenarian who has made 29 Arctic expeditions and is now planning his 30th. He is a great American and has contributed immeasurably to the science of hydrography, meteorology, and geography in the polar areas.

Our colleague, Mr. Hale of Maine, introduced a House bill, H. R. 9146, which would also promote Commander MacMillan to the grade of rear admiral. However, Mr. Hale's bill would have granted Commander MacMillan the pay of a rear admiral while the Senate bill does not increase his retired pay in any way.

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Traditionally, this committee has not enacted legislation promoting individuals on the retired list which results in an increase in retired pay and for that reason I think the Senate bill is preferable.

I might add that this bill has the support of the Department of the Navy and the Bureau of the Budget.

Do you have anything to say on this outside of that, Russ?

Mr. BLANDFORD. No, sir. It is just that Mr. Hale has been most anxious for consideration of this bill and I understand that Commander MacMillan is going to leave the United States soon and will be in Washington sometime in the very near future. He is now preparing for another Arctic expedition. He is 80 years old. He is still hale and hearty, about to go off into the Arctic again.

And if the Congress can make him an honorary rear admiral, it will be a great honor—he certainly is entitled to it if anybody ever was.

Mr. MILLER. I so move.

Mr. ARENDS. It has been moved that the bill be favorably considered. All in favor, say "Aye." To the contrary, "No."

The ayes have it, and the bill is reported.

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